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THROUGH THE KINDNESS OF
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APRIL, 1985

Queen's University at Kingston

Anno Regni
GEORGII III.
REGIS
Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ, & Hiberniæ,
QUINTO.

At the Parliament begun and holden at *Weſtminſter*, the Nineteenth Day of *May*, *Anno Dom.* 1761, in the Firſt Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord *GEORGE* the Third, by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, *&c.*

And from thence continued by ſeveral Prorogations to the Tenth Day of *January*, 1765, being the Fourth Seſſion of the Twelfth Parliament of *Great Britain*.

LONDON:
Printed by *Mark Baſkett*, Printer to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty; and by the Aſſigns of *Robert Baſkett*. 1765.

Anno quinto

Georgii III. Regis.

CAP. XX.

An Act for explaining and rendering more effectual Two Acts, One made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Queen *Anne*, intituled, *An Act for providing a publick Reward for ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall diſcover the Longitude at Sea;* and the other in the Twenty ſixth Year of the Reign of King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act to render more effectual an Act made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen* Anne, *intituled,* An Act for providing a publick Reward for ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall diſcover the Longitude at Sea, *with regard to the making Experiments of Propoſals made for diſcovering the Longitude; and to enlarge the Number of Commiſſioners for putting in Execution the ſaid Act.*

Preamble, reciting Clauſes in Act 12 *Ann.*

25 *Geo.* II. *&c.*

WHEREAS by Two ſeveral Acts made, the One in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen Anne, intituled, An Act for providing a publick Reward for ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall diſcover the Longitude at Sea; and the other in the Twenty ſixth Year of the Reign of his late Majeſty King George the Second, intituled, An Act to render more effectual an Act made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, intituled, *An Act for providing a publick Reward for ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall diſcover the Longitude at Sea*, with regard to the making Experiments of Propoſals made for diſcovering the Longitude; and to enlarge the Number of Commiſſioners for putting in Execution the ſaid Act; the Commiſſioners named in, and conſtituted by the ſaid Acts, were impowered to receive Propoſals for diſcovering the ſaid Longitude, and make Experiments of the ſame: And whereas by the ſaid Act of the Twelfth of Queen Anne, it was enacted, That the Firſt Author or Authors, Diſcoverer or Diſcoverers, of a proper Method for finding the ſaid Longitude within certain Diſtances, ſhould be intitled to and receive certain Rewards therein mentioned; that is to ſay, A Reward or Sum of Ten thouſand Pounds, if it determines the ſaid Longitude to One Degree of a Great Circle, or Sixty Geographical Miles; Fifteen thouſand Pounds, if it determines the ſame to Two Thirds of that Diſtance; and Twenty thouſand Pounds, if it determines the ſame to One half the ſame Diſtance: And whereas in and by the ſaid Act it was further enacted, That if, upon Trial, any Propoſal for diſcovering the ſaid Longitude ſhould not prove to be of ſo great Uſe as before mentioned, yet if the ſame, in the Judgement of the ſaid Commiſſioners, or the major Part of them, ſhould be found of conſiderable Uſe to the Publick, then the ſaid Author or Authors of ſuch Propoſal ſhould receive ſuch leſs Reward as the ſaid Commiſſioners, or the major Part of them, ſhould think reaſonable: And whereas the ſaid Commiſſioners have, from time to time, in purſuance of the Powers veſted in them by the ſaid Act, received Propoſals from Mr. John Harriſon for diſcovering the ſaid Longitude, by Means of certain Machines

Machines or Time Keepers invented by him, and have directed several Sums of Money to be paid to the said John Harrison to enable him to finish his said Machines or Time Keepers, or some of them, upon Condition of his delivering the same up to and for the Use of the Publick: And whereas the said John Harrison did, by Direction of the said Commissioners, enter into Articles with the Commissioners of the Navy, whereby he agreed, in Consideration of the Sums so advanced to him, to deliver up the Three several Machines or Time Keepers in the said Articles mentioned: And whereas, upon Trial of One other Watch Machine or Time Keeper in a Voyage to Jamaica, the major Part of the said Commissioners did adjudge the same to be of considerable Use to the Publick, and did accordingly order the Payment of the Sum of Two thousand five hundred Pounds to the said John Harrison, which Sum was to be deemed and taken as Part of such of the Rewards, in and by the said Act allowed for discovering the said Longitude, as he might become intitled to, and as such has been by him received; and the said Watch or Time Keeper was to become the Property of the Publick: And whereas upon a further Trial of the said last mentioned Watch or Time Keeper, a Ship has sailed, by the Appointment of the Commissioners for the Discovery of the Longitude, from Portsmouth in Great Britain, to Bridgetown in the Island of Barbadoes in the West Indies: And whereas, by Means of the said Watch or Time Keeper invented by Mr. John Harrison, the said Ship did not lose it's Longitude beyond Ten Geographical Miles: And whereas the Method for finding the Longitude at Sea, within half a Degree of a Great Circle, or Thirty Geographical Miles, by Means of the said Watch or Time Keeper invented by the said John Harrison, may be made generally practicable, and of general Utility, if the Principles upon which the said Watch or Time Keeper is constructed are fully discovered and explained, and other Watches or Time Keepers of the same Kind can be made: But Doubts may arise, whether, by the Words of the said Act of the Twelfth of Queen Anne, the said Commissioners can direct the Payment of the said Reward of Twenty thousand Pounds to the said John Harrison, upon a Discovery of the Principles of the said Watch or Time Keeper, and upon other Watches or Time Keepers of the same Kind being made: And whereas great Progress has been made

towards discovering the Longitude at Sea by a Set of Lunar Tables constructed by Tobias Mayer deceased, late Professor at Goetingen in Germany, upon the Principles of Gravitation laid down by Sir Isaac Newton; in the Construction of which Tables he was considerably assisted from Theorems furnished by Professor Euler of the University of Berlin: And whereas the said Tables are of considerable Use to the Publick, and may be further improved, and made of more general Utility: And whereas the Widow, or other Representatives of the said Professor Mayer, are, within the Intention of the said Act, deserving of a publick Reward, upon her or their assigning the Property of the said Tables to the said Commissioners for the Use of the Publick; and the said Professor Euler is also deserving of an honorary and pecuniary Acknowledgement for his useful and ingenious Labours towards the Discovery of the Longitude: And whereas it is necessary that the Powers of the said Act of the Twelfth Year of Queen Anne, and also of the said Act of the Twenty fifth Year of King George the Second, should be explained and made effectual, as well for receiving the Discovery and Explanation of the Principles upon which the said Watch or Time Keeper is constructed, and for making Trial of other Watches or Time Keepers to be made in Consequence thereof, and for paying the said Reward to the said John Harrison, his Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, as for giving proper Rewards to the said Professor Euler, and to the Widow or Representatives of the said Professor Mayer, and to such Person or Persons as shall improve the said Tables of the Moon, and make the same of more general Utility; and also to such Person or Persons as shall make other Discoveries or Improvements useful to Navigation: May it therefore please Your Majesty, that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same,

10,000 *l.* to be paid, as a present Reward, to Mr. *John Harrison*, pursuant to the Act of 12 *Ann.*

That One Moiety of the greatest Reward which is directed in and by the said Act, made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Queen Anne, to be paid to the First Author or Authors, Discoverer or Discoverers, of a proper Method for finding the said Longitude at Sea, shall be paid to the said John Harrison, his Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, when and so soon as the Principles upon which his said Watch or Time Keeper is

constructed

conſtructed are fully diſcovered, and explained to the Satisfaction of the ſaid Commiſſioners for the Diſcovery of the Longitude, or the major Part of them; and when and ſo ſoon as the ſaid John Harriſon hath aſſigned to the ſaid Commiſſioners, for the Uſe of the Publick, the Property of the Three ſeveral Time Keepers which, in and by the ſaid Articles, he agreed to deliver up, and alſo the Property of the ſaid laſt mentioned Watch or Time Keeper, deducting from and out of the ſaid Moiety, ſo to be paid to the ſaid John Harriſon, his Executors, Adminiſtrators, or Aſſigns, the Sum of Two thouſand five hundred Pounds already advanced and paid to him; and that the other Moiety of the ſaid greateſt Reward mentioned in the ſaid Act ſhall, when and ſo ſoon as other Time Keepers of the ſame Kind ſhall be made, and ſhall, upon Trial, be found to be of a ſufficient Correctneſs to determine the ſaid Longitude within half a Degree of a Great Circle, or Thirty Geographical Miles, to the Satisfaction of the ſaid Commiſſioners, or the major Part of them, be paid to the ſaid John Harriſon, his Executors, Adminiſtrators, or Aſſigns.

upon his diſcovering the Principles of his Time Keeper, and aſſigning the Property of 3 of thoſe Inſtruments, and the laſt mentioned Watch, for the Uſe of the Publick; deducting the 2,500 *l.* already advanced him;

and other 10,000 *l.* to be paid when the other Time Keepers are made, and proved to be of ſufficient Correctneſs.

Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid Maſter John Harriſon ſhall not be intitled, by virtue of any thing contained in this Act, to the ſaid Reward, or any Part thereof, unleſs the Diſcovery and Explanation of the Principles upon which his ſaid Time Keeper is conſtructed, ſhall be made within Six Months after the paſſing of this Act.

Diſcovery of the Principles on which the Time Keeper is conſtructed, to be made within 6 Months.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That a Reward or Sum of Money, not exceeding Three hundred Pounds in the Whole, ſhall be paid to the ſaid Profeſſor Euler.

3,000 *l.* to be paid to Profeſſor *Euler*.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That a Reward or Sum of Money, not exceeding Three thouſand Pounds in the Whole, ſhall be paid to the Widow or other Repreſentatives of the ſaid Profeſſor Mayer, upon her or their aſſigning the Property of the Set of the latеſt Manuſcript Lunar Tables, conſtructed by the ſaid Tobias Mayer, to the ſaid Commiſſioners, to and for the Uſe of the Publick.

and 300 *l.* to the Widow of Profeſſor *Mayer*, upon aſſigning the Property of the lateſt Ms. Lunar Tables conſtructed by him.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That any Reward or Rewards, Sum or Sums of Money, not exceeding in the Whole the Sum of Five thouſand Pounds, ſhall and may be paid to ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall improve the ſaid Tables of the Moon; or that ſhall make any Diſcovery or Diſcoveries,

5,000 *l.* propoſed to any who ſhall improve the ſaid Tables,

Improvement

or shall make any Discovery or Improvement useful to Navigation.

Improvement or Improvements, useful to Navigation; which said Reward or Rewards, Sum or Sums of Money, shall and may be paid to such Person or Persons, and in such Proportion or Proportions, as the said Commissioners shall, from time to time, think proper and direct.

Clauses, &c. in the Acts of 12 *Anne*, and 26 *Geo.* II. continued in Force, where not altered by this Act.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all the Clauses, Powers, Authorities, Matters, and Things, contained in any or either of the said Two Acts, made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of Queen Anne, and in the Twenty sixth Year of the Reign of King George the Second, not altered by this Act, shall continue in full Force, and extend, and be construed to extend, to this Act, as fully and amply as if again repeated and re-enacted in the Body of this present Act; and that all and every the Reward or Rewards, Sum or Sums of Money, by this Act granted and allowed, shall, from time to time, be certified under the Hands and Seals of the said Commissioners for the Discovery of the Longitude, to the Commissioners of the Navy for the time being; and the Commissioners of the Navy for the time being shall make out a Bill or Bills for the Sum or Sums contained in the said Certificate or Certificates, payable by the Treasurer of the Navy; and such Sum or Sums of Money the said Treasurer of the Navy is hereby required to pay immediately, to the Person or Persons mentioned in the said Certificate or Certificates, out of any Money that shall be in his Hands unapplied for the Use of the Navy, in such and the same Manner, and according to the same Rules and Directions as are prescribed in and by the said Two recited Acts, or either of them, with regard to any Reward or Rewards, Sum or Sums of Money, allowed to be given and paid in and by the said Acts, or either of them.

Rewards, by this Act granted, to be certified by the Commissioners for the Longitude to the Commissioners of the Navy;

who are to make out Bills for the same, payable by the Treasurer of the Navy,

out of the unapplied Money in his Hands.

Where any Reward exceeds 1,000 *l.* it is to be certified by the Majority of the Commissioners; and not exceeding that Sum, may be certified by Five.

Provided always, That all and every such Reward or Sum of Money that shall exceed the Sum of One thousand Pounds, shall be certified under the Hands and Seals of the said Commissioners, or the major Part of them; but in case such Reward or Sum of Money shall not exceed the Sum of One thousand Pounds, then, and in that Case, it shall and may be certified under the Hands and Seals of the said Commissioners, or any Five or more of them.

Commissioners for the Longitude impowered to administer Oaths,

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners for the Discovery of the Longitude, or the

the major Part of them, and they are hereby authorized and impowered for their better Satisfaction, if they shall see Occasion, to administer an Oath or Oaths to such Person or Persons as they shall think proper, for the Purposes of carrying this Act into Execution: which Oath or Oaths, it shall and may be lawful to and for any Two or more of the said Commissioners to administer accordingly. For the Purposes of this Act.

And whereas, since the passing of the said Act of the Twelfth of Queen Anne, another Professorship for the Purpose of Astronomy has been established in the University of Cambridge; be it therefore enacted, That the Lowndes's Professor of Astronomy in the University of Cambridge for the time being shall be, and he is hereby added to, and joined with, the Commissioners appointed by the said Act of the Twelfth of Queen Anne, and by another Act passed in the Twenty sixth Year of King George the Second; and the said Professor of Astronomy is hereby appointed a Commissioner, and shall and may act, to all Intents and Purposes, for putting in Execution the said Acts and this present Act, as fully and effectually as if he had been appointed a Commissioner by the said Acts of the Twelfth of Queen Anne, and of the Twenty sixth of King George the Second, or either of them. *Lowndes's* Professor of Astronomy in *Cambridge* made a joint Commissioner for the Longitude.

And whereas the Publication of Nautical Almanacks constructed by proper Persons, under the Direction of the said Commissioners, would greatly contribute to make the said Lunar Tables more generally useful; be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Commissioners to cause such Nautical Almanacks, or other useful Tables, to be constructed, and to print, publish, and vend, or cause to be printed, published, and vended, any Nautical Almanack or Almanacks, or other useful Table or Tables, which they, or the major Part of them, shall, from time to time, judge necessary and useful, in order to facilitate the Method of discovering the Longitude at Sea; any Law, Statute, exclusive Privilege, private Charter, or other Custom, to the contrary thereof notwithstanding. The Construction and Publication of Nautical Almanacks, or other Tables, recommended to the Commissioners for the Longitude.

And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person or Persons shall print, publish, or vend, or cause to be printed, published, or vended, any Nautical Almanack or Almanacks, or other Table or Tables constructed under the Direction of the said Commissioners, without being first licensed by the said Commissioners, or the major Part of them; and if any Person or Persons not None to print, publish, or vend the same, but such as shall be licensed,

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so licensed, or not being authorized by the Person or Persons so licensed by the said Commissioners, shall print, publish, or vend, or cause to be printed, published, or vended, any such Nautical Almanack or Almanacks, or other Table or Tables, every such Person or Persons shall, for every Copy of such Nautical Almanack or Table so printed, published, or vended, forfeit and pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds; to be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at Westminster; and that One Moiety of such Penalty and Forfeiture shall be to His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and the other Moiety to him or them that shall prosecute, inform, or sue for the same.

under Penalty of 20 *l.* for every Copy.

FINIS.

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